

# SOCIETY

**W**ASHINGTON'S streets put on quite a spring air last week, and despite some breezy weather and a little rain, the drives and promenades were filled with gaily dressed women, with a show of Easter style about them, scurrying about to finish up their season's calls, or attending small receptions and teas. There was an unusually delightful variety in entertainment, too, a great relief from the heaviness of winter, when there is little on one's calendar but dinners and dances and crowded teas.

Everybody went to the Mask and Wig show, and there was a brave array of full dress and jewels in the boxes. Many entertainments which had been arranged for the boys were declared off on account of the sad ending of the life of one of Washington's favorite girls. However, there were the boys, who could not play to empty boxes, and matrons filled their promises of a good house. Miss Roosevelt was in the large party of Mrs. Reyburn, and the following night was the guest of Mrs. Slater, when she captivated everyone in a lemon yellow gown and an opera wrap made just a kimono.

The play Tuesday night with one's own friends and next-door neighbors done up in paint, powder, and fine costumes, was the finishing touch for the amateur theatricals begun Monday night. There was a little raffle of laughter when some pretty girl in a tableaux stepped down from her pedestal just in time for the audience to loose the delusion of the living picture by a sight of moving feet as the curtain lowered, and there was a trifle of earnest jest in the doings of the court fool, but all the player folks took the matter with a due allowance of solemnity, and were earnest in doing their best. Women like Miss Boardman, who is earnest in her charities—more earnest than fashionable—gave up her seats to be resold, and just wandered about from friend to friend, saying pleasant things and making every one satisfied. It is no wonder with all their success of Monday, that both the author of the play and the actors enter with such hearty good will into the show for tomorrow night. When Miss Roosevelt told her father about it, he said he thought he would go. When she told him of its object, he said he would go.

There were more social high jinks, and fun alive when the British ambassador and charming Lady Durand turned their embassy home over to Miss Durand for a sort of a wig and powder dance, and all the player folks of Tuesday night went. For fear they might look stupid in just regulation evening clothes, the young diplomats wore their pink hunting coats, and the young people out of the cast who were invited likewise donned sprightly looking attire and disported themselves.

Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, who became noted for his charming dinner parties before Mme. Takahira, who wears American clothes, went to the Orient to visit her boys, gave a reception, but it was just for men, and when there are no clothes to describe, and no odor of flowers, or sounds of music, the event seems to many for social columns.

Mrs. Dwight, the interesting wife of Representative Dwight of New York, gave a little dinner before the Mask and Wig show, and maintained her day at home.

Quite the most stately events of the week, of course, were the two diplomatic dinners, with the Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay as hosts. It used to be their custom to invite no other guests with the diplomats but their daughters, Mrs. Whitney and Mrs. Wadsworth. Therefore, the innovation is quite complete and pleasant. The foreigners like American women, and the American women like the foreigners, "only," as one young woman puts it, "I never understand their broken English, nor they my equally broken French."

The dinner given by Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Shaw was a long delayed hospitality in honor of the President. These are supposed to be awfully formal functions, and the President is positively pleased with any innovation. It's a great compliment for a Cabinet hostess to invite one or two other people to meet the President and his wife at these functions. It used to be the custom for the hostess to ask the President to suggest the guest, but President Roosevelt, who is charmingly democratic, prefers the surprise.

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor and Mrs. Cortelyou have yet to entertain the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, and it is safe to say the dinner will have sufficient dignity, but no stilted formality. Their dinner is more than a week away, being fixed for April 26.

Young Roger Boutell came back from his post at Berne, where he is first secretary at the American Legation, and announced to his parents his engagement to one of his childhood sweethearts. Mr. Boutell is an unusually gifted person, having won the friendship of the present minister while still a student at Harvard. He is handsome, and possessed of a fine manly bearing and happy disposition. The bride elect is also a pretty girl, and the marriage will take away from the States two typical Americans of the highest type. Mrs. Boutell's tea when she introduced Miss Burley to Washington society was the most pleasant and largest affair of the kind during the week.

There is hardly enough encouragement given the student life of Washington in their social affairs, and while the Georgetown "prom" at the New Willard Wednesday was a success, it deserved a greater share of attention than it received. We have a right in Washington to be proud of both Columbian University, the conception of our first President, and old Georgetown, the alma mater of so many great men. Everybody should abandon their social affairs for a "prom," and give the Capital girls a chance to see some of the charms of student hospitality.

There were luncheons and dinners during the week, fitting in before dances and other entertainments, and there were numerous quiet little theater parties followed by informal chafing dish suppers, or perhaps a simple repast at a fashionable place down town.

With Mrs. Barney's play to open the program for tomorrow, the week assumes quite auspicious airs. Capt. and Mrs. Warren Beach will give a dinner and dance to a lot of young people at Rauscher's on Tuesday night, and the Mexican ambassador will lend a stately air by a dinner party the same night. On Thursday, Captain and Mrs. Beach will again entertain at dinner.

Senator and Mrs. Depew will give a large evening reception on Friday, when there will be an official aspect interspersed with resident society. Mr. van Roijen, the Netherlands charge, will go to New York to prepare for his marriage to Miss Winthrop, which will take place the 22d.

The week's entertainment will close with the song recital in the New Willard ball room, when Mrs. Nordica will sing for the benefit of the National Homeopathic Hospital. The patronesses are all prominent, and the event will be made a fashionable show.

## Weddings.

Nearly two hundred people prominent in civic circles and society generally attended the wedding yesterday at the home of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Asserson, in Connecticut Avenue, when their daughter, Miss Agnes C. Asserson, and Mr. Justin Ransom Swift were married. The ceremony took place at 4 o'clock, and was performed by the Rev. Dr. Tenuis Hamlin.

Miss Alice Asserson, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Mr. Garfield Swift, brother of the groom, acted as best man. The bride's gown was of white satin, handsomely trimmed in maitre lace, and she wore a bridal veil, fastened with orange blossoms and carried a loose bouquet of white roses and valley lilies. Miss Asserson, the maid of honor, wore a gown of white chiffon. The long drawing room was generously decorated with large palms, ferns, smil-

ax and cut flowers. The large square mirror, before which the wedding ceremony was performed, was draped in smilax, and reflected back the wedding party and the floral decorations. Admiral Asserson gave his daughter away. Refreshments were served after the ceremony.

Mr. and Mrs. Swift will go for a bridal journey of a few weeks and then take up their permanent residence in Pittsburg, where the groom is in business. Mr. Swift is the son of Capt. William Swift, U. S. N. Admiral Asserson was stationed at the Brooklyn navy yard for a number of years, and came to Washington a few years ago.

Announcement yesterday of the marriage of Miss Mary Blount, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Blount, to Edson Thurlow White, which occurred at El Paso, Tex., on April 6, came as a great surprise to the many friends of the popular Georgetown girl. "The Oaks," the Georgetown Heights home



ROSA ALVAREZ CALDERON.



BLANQUITA ALVAREZ CALDERON (on the left)



MISS ADELINA ALVAREZ CALDERON.

## MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OF SENOR CALDERON, PERUVIAN MINISTER.

Senor Manuel Alvarez Calderon is the first South American diplomat to become a social leader at the Capital. The accomplishments of his large family in a musical way have long been known to Washington music lovers, and he enjoys the distinction of being the father of a whole orchestra.

It remained for the three charming elder girls of the family, Miss Calderon, Miss Rosita Calderon, and twelve year-old Blanquita Calderon, to exhibit their wonderful dancing to the public at their debut performance in the cast of "The Dream of Queen Elizabeth," given last Tuesday evening. With their brother, Alfredo Alvarez Calderon, they won rounds of applause, and bouquets besides, with their Spanish dances. They will repeat their dances Monday afternoon, when the President and members of his family will be spectators.



MISS JEAN STONE.

## POPULAR IN SOCIETY.

Miss Jean Stone is one of the most popular girls who has ever figured in Washington society. As the daughter of the governor of Pennsylvania, as well as in her official capacity in Capital society, she has held a characteristic and prominent place. Her portrait by a famous artist will hang in the gallery of American Beauties at the World's Fair.

Miss Stone is a capital whip and shot, and joins her father in his annual hunt over the rough parts of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and adjoining States.

of Mr. and Mrs. Blount has for years been one of the most notable places in the District, and from the time when the famous Lafayette was entertained under the sheltering oaks which surround the house and give it its name, great historic interest has attached to it.

Miss Blount was a particularly gifted girl, and after studying for a number of years finally went on the stage. A slight accident rendered her temporarily lame, and she gave up her dramatic career. She lived for some years in Paris, where she was a Bohemian of the most polite type. Instead of spending the generous income sent her by her parents in high living, she took an apartment with three other girl students whose incomes confined them to garret life in the French capital. Miss Blount took her turn at scrubbing up for Sunday, building fires, washing dishes, and such other tasks as fell to the lot of her room mates.

It was while engaged in cleaning out the cooking stove that one of her wealthy Washington friends came upon her, and there in the presence of the three other students, humiliated her by giving her secret away. After that, though she denied the imputation of care and luxury said to belong to her, she could never again keep in sympathy with the girl students who studied by day and washed their clothes and cooked by night.

There is the same touch of her old

love of Bohemia in the informal manner of carrying out her love affair. When she found that business might delay the coming of her lover to Washington to keep the marriage date, she just packed her trunk and went half way to meet him. She will revel in the luxury of mining camp life, and will probably still carry her little ideals to the end of her days.

Mr. and Mrs. Blount have now only their two sons left single, but will always maintain the reputation of "The Oaks" for ideal hospitality.

Mrs. Emile P. Selhausen has issued invitations for the marriage of her daughter, Elfrida, to Carl A. Droop. The wedding will take place April 27.

Mrs. and Miss Selhausen, who have just returned from abroad, having spent the winter in Wiesbaden, are now stopping with Dr. E. A. Selhausen.

Mrs. Theodore Birney announces the engagement of her daughter, Miss Alonita White, to Harold Walker, son of the late Aldace S. Walker. The date for the marriage is not set yet, but it will probably take place in the autumn. Mr. Walker is engaged in business in Mexico, where Mr. and Mrs. Walker will make their home.

The principal wedding scheduled for next week, and one of more than usual interest to Washington people, is that

of Miss Eliza Hutchinson Webb and Dr. James Ferdinand Mitchell, at St. John's Church, at noon on Wednesday. The church ceremony will be followed by a breakfast at the home of the bride in Massachusetts Avenue.

The wedding party, which is now complete, includes Mrs. Preston Gibson, of Chicago, maid of honor; Miss Errol Cuthbert Brown, maid of honor, and Miss Anne Phelps Brown, Miss Eisk Hoban, Miss Helen Bird Johnson, Miss Anita Poor, Miss Edith Sanger, and Miss Polly Randolph, bridesmaids.

The ushers will be Dr. Louis C. Lehr, Dr. William M. Dobney, Dr. Thomas B. Fletcher, Dr. Hugh H. Young, Dr. William F. M. Sowers, and Dr. William A. Fisher, Jr., of Baltimore, and Dr. R. McKee, Jr., of Baltimore, and Dr. William B. Johnson, of this

city. W. S. Hillis, of Baltimore, will be best man, and the Rev. William L. Davies, D. D., of St. Mark's Church, will officiate.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Mitchell, of Baltimore, and the bride, one of Washington's own daughters, Miss Errol Cuthbert Brown, maid of honor, will give a dinner in honor of the bridal party tomorrow evening.

A quiet home wedding of Tuesday evening was that of Miss Mary Livermore Smith, daughter of the late Gen. Charles H. Smith, U. S. A., to Irving H. Dunlap, formerly of Syracuse, now of Washington. Only a few relatives and intimate friends were present. The bride in white with tulle veil entered the room with her brother, Charles L.

Smith, U. G. Pierce of All Souls' Church, performed the ceremony.

## Dinners.

Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay entertained at the second of a series of formal dinners to be given this spring, in compliment to members of the Diplomatic Corps.

Their guests last night were the ambassador from Austria-Hungary and Baroness Hengelmuller, Baron von Sternburg, the German ambassador; Senator and Mrs. Cullom, Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister; Baron Moncheur, the Belgian minister; Phya Akharaj Varadhara, the Siamese min-

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